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Feb, 1st

London Newsletter: No 7: From: Jean Muggoch, 15 Balcombe House, Taunton Place, London, NW1. Free to London area fans, postage appreciated elsewhere. News wanted. Main topic..news of the Brighton Arts Festival which is to be featuring sf this year.

No-Eyed Monster: Vol 3, No 1: From: Norman Masters, 720 Bald Eagle Rd, Artonville Michigan, 48462. 30¢ or trade etc. Norman's editorial is reflecting upon the GOH speech at a Detroit con--both the speech and Norman's reflections are of interest. This is followed by a fantasy tale dear to the heart of some but not to me...not tempted by characters called "Boma" and "Naruk". But for those of you who do like this--it appears to be competently written. So is also the rest of the fiction which makes up the bulk of this zine. I guess it is good practise for budding pros..and the criticism in the letter column should be useful also.

Etheline: No 1: From: Leigh Edmunds, AFPA, 19 Somerset Place, Melbourne, 3000. Australia. This is aiming to provide news for Australian fans. Apart from this there are some reviews of films and books. Main news item is of the forthcoming Melbourne SF conference to be held at Easter. \$1 for non-attending members..

Foolscap: No 3: From: John D. Berry, 35 Dusenberry Rd, Bronxville, New York 1078 25¢ or trade etc. The main item in this is a Nycon report from John. This being his first he discovers that "A Worldcon is not just an extension of the fandom that consists of people reading and publishing fanzines and all the attendant circumstances". This report is a bit of a mixture - one could complain about the vast amount that John has forgotten or did not note at the time which he will mention - on the other hand these treks of meaningless ("I really have no idea what else I did") are cheek by jowl with some highly entertaining vignettes. Some sort of form could have improved this immensely. It is time that con reporters realised there is no need to begin at the beginning and go on to the end and then stop. A generous amount of space is given in this zine to fanzine reviews-4pp- and the letter column is good. Can't quite put my finger on why - but I think this is going to be a good one.

## Haverings 2

Feb. 2nd

Xeron:No 7:From:Mike Ashley, 8 Shurland Ave., Sittingbourne, Kent. 1/6d or Trade etc. Mostly fiction. "The Chosen Wizard" by Bryn Fortey falls in the fairy tale class. "The Enchanted Incompetent" by Kay Stirling has a line at the beginning - "Ah shaddap," said Achilles, who looked severely dischuffed". - which stopped me from reading any further. I'll take my history straight. "Dreams:The Tale of Asper" by Brian Stableford which starts.. "It was said in the days of dreams that to the north of the Wailing Waste, guarding the passage that connected Earthgirdle, the great ocean, to the Shrouded Lake, was a great citadel, whose name was Asper". Now I am just not the type to be able to make comments of any value on this sort of story. I have the prosaic kind of mind that stops at "the days of dreams" and thinks that the writer has just used it because it sounds well. Now John Aldridge in "The Quest" is trying to be profound about human consciousness. I don't think he quite makes it; but at least he is not trying to beguile himself with words. Mike himself has undertaken a write-up of all the sword and sorcery writers. He gives details of them all, and also gives a listing of stories. Americans fans who like s&s will welcome this zine.

Australian SF Review:No 14:From John Bangsund, 11 Wilson St (PO Box 19) Fern-tree Gully, Victoria, 3156 Australia. 6 for \$2.40 or 18s. British Agent: Graham Hall, 79 Tavistock Rd. London W11. On the other hand if you are not and s&s lover -this may be the very zine for you as it is for me. It has once again a meaty issue. In order to carry out the praise-worthy aim of furthering the contacts with foreign fandoms; John has presented articles from Germany, Scandinavia, and the Argentine. As John points out in his editorial.. "there is room for a fanzine devoted solely to reprinting in English articles and reviews from foreign language publications" In addition to these sf articles, Patrick Terry gives a good picture of the start of an sf club in Sydney; and John himself has fun with the idea of an Indian film producer who wants to film "The Remainder World" by Ballard! As usual the letter column is top-notch. Take this quote from Samuel Delaney as an example and because it also certifies my feelings exactly... "One of the attitudes that I've always personally deplored in sf is the cliché that technological progress means dehumanisation and loss of freedom. Misuse of technology is what causes dehumanisation, but the same process that mis-use of political force, or economic power, or any social institution cause it." Again, this year, I am nominating this one for Best Fanzine Award.

Yandro:No 177:From:Robert & Juanita Coulson, Route 3, Hartford City, Indiana 47348. British Agent: Alan Dodd, 77 Stanstead Rd., Hoddesdon, Herts. 40¢ or 3s. The hike in the US postal rates has hiked a few fanzine prices including this one. Yet it is not so outrageous a rise as there has been in the professional mags. Take ESQUIRE, for instance - that went up from 4/6d to 7s this month! In her column, Juanita discusses the subject of how "male oriented" SF is something that has never troubled her - but that she has been annoyed" by reading sf written by men and supposedly reflecting a female point of view, such books rarely mirror the points of view of any females I know, including females I don't particularly like". She then asks the reader how they react "to a book containing a protagonist

### Haverings 3

of your own sex, but created by an author of the opposite sex?". I just got up confidently to my bookshelves sure I could pick out one author to cite as being successful in this...and realised that all the best drawn female characters are by women authors. Dear me..I have one book MISS MOLE which is a brilliant portrayal of the feminine character..but the author is E.H.Young..and I don't know whether this hides a male or female name. In Buck's column of book reviews, he mentions obtaining a book from a "remainder house". This made me perk my ears up - the mention of cheap books always does. Why haven't I heard of this before? Rick Norwood writes the October magazine reviews. No NEW WORLDS, I see. Isn't it getting to the States? Star billing in the letter column goes to John Brunner who produces a nice long and interesting bit about CND. Funniest palm goes to Don and Maggie Thompson who came across an amusing poem and shared it... "East is East and West is West, Though this may not seem relevant, We all know how to milk a cow, But you can't much about with an elephant." And you can't beat YANDRO for well mixed entertainment.

Starling:No 11:From:Hank Luttrell,2936 Barrett Station Rd,Kirkwood,Missouri 63122, and Lesleigh Couch, Rt.2,Box 889,Arnold,Missouri 63010. 25¢ or trade etc. In his editorial Hank describes the formation of an SF group -this could be useful if you are thinking of trying it yourself. There is a Nycon 111 report from Lesleigh Couch(I would like to know why she spells her name this way--)-which is very good. She has a memory for events; and gives a nicely judged amount of detail; her reporting is objective. The main item for discussion in the letter column is the censorship of pornography. Joe Sanders handles the book reviews and then goes on to discuss what unlimited pornography means. I like his conclusion.. "I think we'll come out okay if we honestly question ourselves ---if we realise that we have to accept books, even "dirty" books, as part of the real world but if we refuse to accept what they show us as the whole world". Don D'Am-massa has a piece of fiction about a lonely boy and an ogre which I did enjoy.

Feb.3rd

Dynatron:No 34:From:Roy Tackett,915 Green Valley Rd.NW,Albuquerque,New Mexico,87107,25¢. I am British Agent. Roy doesn't give the sterling equivalent of 25¢..as he is a friend of mine he must know I can't count and that I'll leave it to you all to figure out how much to send for this the original green fanzine. This goes out through N'JPA and STOBCLER - whatever the latter may be; another dashed one I suppose. Roy tells of his visit to the "Underground Cinema"..and the most interesting part is where Roy describes how a drunk lectured the audience upon Viet Nam. Don Franson starts a methodical and thorough report on the 20th Westercon; which I am enjoying. There are a few sensible remarks on the Fan Awards from Len Moffatt. The SF talk is supplied this time by Bob Vandeman in that he is recalling from the Thirties. Highlight of Roy's remarks is his lament for the passing of orange boxes, that grand old standby for the collecting fan.

The New Unknown:No 2:From:Norman Masters,720 Bald Eagle Lake Rd. Ortonville,Michigan,48462,USA,25¢. As the old UNKNOWN has such a wonderful reputation; myself, I would be a bit reluctant to use its title. The production of this is very faint so that reading is hard on the eyes.

### Haverings 4

It contains only fiction. This is competently enough written but is not particularly entertaining. All plot..and the characterisations are very poor.

### Feb.5th

S.F.Weekly:No 125:From Andrew Porter,24 E.82nd St.New York,NY10028.I am British Agent. 12/11 or 10/9s. This was the issue that held the shattering news of the death of Ron Ellick; and is the only time that I have not been glad to see this newszine with its excellent and up-to-date coverage of the whole sf scene.

With this came two flyers...T.L.F.F. PROGRESS REPORT No 10:From Terry Carr and Tom Schlueck which gave the news of the fact that Steve Stiles had won T.L.F.F. The voting numbers are rather staggering..only 15 ballots from Europe -8 from Germany and 7 from Britain. What to do about this state of affairs I do not know. The other flyer is FIRST DRAFT:No 199 from Dave Van Arnam, 1730 Harrison Ave,Apt.353,Bronx,NY 10453. This rides free with SF Weekly. Dave appears to be arguing in favour of Scientology, but does not advance any facts to make us think this worth paying attention to at all.

### Feb.6th

Kallikanzaros:No 2:From:John Ayotte,1121 Pauline Ave,Columbus,Ohio.43224. 35¢.or trade etc. John's editorial says.."Upcoming membership in M.P.A. may be enough of an outlet to prevent KALL from becoming a genzine." Now why should he write that? Doesn't he know that a genzine is greater than an apazine because it is ushered into the cold world of fandom on its own and not into the cushioned friendliness of an apa? Several dozen apa members need not write in bitterly describing the criticism they have received. It is in the minority, I know. In this there is a "vampire" story by Roger Zelazny..which only reminded me of Chuck Harris who used to write all the 'vampire' stories in the good old days. Other fiction is by Mike Ashley a serial whose fantasy magic element has the name of Vroms. Will this yen for magic stories never end? Don Macmassa is in here also with VARIATIONS ON A THEME. It is cleverly done..although any one of the variations in themselves would not be particularly noticeable. The letter column is just comments upon previous material.

### Feb.10th

SF Cronache:No Unico:From:A list of four names here..a group effort..but I think I'd best give the name of Gian Cossato, as he has a London address to which you can write if you are interested. It is 5 Barkston Gardens, London.W5. This zine is in Italian so will only interest those of you who wish to brush up your Italian and learn more about European fandom. By the little I can make out this has a full reportage of Sf events in Italy, including the SF Film Festival at Trieste.

### Feb.12th

SF.Weekly:No 216:From:Andrew Porter, address as before. Main item:Market figures for SF sales. Among the many news item tops (orweirdness goes to --)"The Vietnamese 11Corps has adopted the lidless eye of Sauron as its battle insignia". How about that?

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Feb.14th

Osfan:No 31:From:Hank Luttrell,49B Donnelly Hall,Blair Group,Columbia, Missouri.65201. 10/41. Official organ of the Ozark SF Assoc...so there is naturally a fair amount of news about club activities. There are also listings of magazines; movies;paperbacks;conventions etc with full details. There is also neat and short reports on such items as the visit of A.C. Clarke to Missouri. A very efficient zine

Feb.15th

Munich Round Up:No 100:From:Waldemar Kunning,8000 München 2.Herzog-Spital-Strasse 5,Germany. This is called the "satirical fanzine of the Munch Group". All in German. It is enlivened by a page of fan photographs -German fans having a party.

Psychotic:No 23:From:Richard Geis,5 Westminster Ave.Venice,Calif.90291,USA 256 or Trades etc. It's nice to see such a fannish colophon again. I have to quote one bit..I thought it so funny..."Remember: no mail addressed to "Psychotic" or "The Mad Hermit" will reach me. It all goes to Governor Reagan." The 'editorial' is amusing too. This, called THE COUCH,is a dialogue between the editor and himself --the idea being well carried out so that it reads nutty but nice. Ted White is writing about what promotes the readerships of an sf magazine; and concludes that the readers must get a sense of involvement with such things as letter columns and editorials - and I do so agree with him. Harry Warner's article warms the heart of any editor who ever hesitated over a spelling or spotted an error after the stencil has been run off when he writes upon word usage in fanzines. Harry admonishes us all to remember that fan publishing is a hobby! There is a long review of the book DANGEROUS VISIONS by Earl Evers, which convinces me that every fan will have had to buy it to be in the "swim" of current controversy. This is the book of stories edited by Harlan Ellison in which he proposed to break new ground. Yes, before I go on too long I'd better sum this one up as the best fannish zine I've seen for a while in that its got that zing. It's also got a fine fan feud in the letter column just to keep things lively.

Feb.16th

The WSFA Journal:From:Don Miller,12315 Judson Rd.Wheaton,Md.20906.5/41 Official organ of the Washington SF Assoc. No 49. There is a handy list of SF meetings. Oddly enough, this zine has the criticism of fan word usage that sparked off Harry Warner's article in the previous zine. Which shows what a queer time world HAVE has due, mostly, to the oddities of the mail. This mostly consists of reviews, all are well done; and there is a letter column which reflects this interest. If you're serious, I'd recommend it. I have also received issue No 52. This shows that the standard of the reviews remains high, and I would also recommend this for its fanzine review column by Doll Gilliland.

Feb.19th

SF Weekly:No 217:From Andrew Porter, as before. You get this to find out which author had his house of fire; and which SF mags had almost duplicate covers. And all the other news!

Cuenta Atras(Count-down):No 92:From:Carlos Buiza,Atocha 12,Madrid 12,Espana.

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In Spanish this one. Quite large-sized and well produced zine. Appears to have both fiction and sf discussion. I'll pass my copy on to Jean Muggoch who is the only fan over here that I know can read some Spanish. Is there anyone else interested in this language?

### Feb. 21st

Speculation. The Speculator at Large: From: Peter Weston, 81 Trescott Rd. Northfield, Birmingham 31. This is free upon request. This is out out because it has been a long time between SPECULATIONS and Pete wanted to keep in touch. In this Pete explains that one of the things he has been doing is produce a monthly magazine for the Young Conservatives. Imagine putting off a fanzine for that! However, he goes on to normal SF chat so perhaps it was only a temporary aberation. He then goes onto discuss the difficulties of keeping an SF group interested. Which is a subject I think about--seems like the groups that last longest are those who manage to have some sort of a formal programme. This again, can depend greatly upon the amount of interesting speakers there are in the area. With this comes some 'bumf' about the coming issue of SPECULATION. More on this later in this HAVER.

### Feb. 22nd

Odd Magazine: No 18: From: Raymond D. Fisher, 4404 Forest Park, St. Louis, Missouri 63108. 75¢. I know that is more expensive than many..but this zine has over a 100 pp, is composed of extra good paper, and is lavishly illustrated. The editorial is short but concerns itself mostly with reflections upon international politics..which is unusual. This is the zine that has a poem by Joyce Fisher..EVE..which caught my attention. It is well thought out and by far the best I've seen in a fanzine for a while. A cartoon strip is here that features a "Shaggy dragon story"! This is by Jack Gaughan and is amusing. There is also an art portfolio by Edwards Jennings, rather abstract, I'm afraid I only liked the one of the elephant god. Could be much better in colour of course. Main fiction is LOOK DREAMWARD BEGGAR by William Bowers. It isn't the usual fan fiction, so I read on..although I had difficulty following the story line, rewarding though! Philip Canning's BEASTIARY, a collection of poems and drawings is very good and, naturally, I liked the cat one best. Richard Gordon "dissects" America in his report of the Nyeon. I would not agree with many of his opinions which he is inclined to make sound like certainties, but nevertheless, this makes good reading. Apart from its size, I would also recommend this zine for its well balanced contents.

### Feb. 24th

Algol: No 13: From Andrew Porter, address already given, 75¢. Trades arranged. This is another large zine and again has a goodly selection of items. The cover is very colourful, really eye-catching. Andy's editorial really packs a lot in - telling you about himself, how he feels about SF, and there is a discussion of the con rotation plan. Ted White has the kind of enjoyably chatty column that is so rare in the zines these days. Apart from writing about writing..Samuel Delaney has a story in this zine. Fantasy of course and well done, it goes without saying. Rich Brown has a faanish tale to tell and manages to cram into it all the most famous fan sayings..it's a wonderful thing! Banks Mebane writes a tribute to the richness of Roger Zelazny's prose; and gives many quotes to illustrate his theme. Robin White's article is entitled ARE FEMME FANS HUMAN? It moved me to write an article myself -

Haverings 7

a practically unheard of proceeding! Again I can highly recommend this American zines are on the upgrade again.

Feb. 27th

Granfallcon: No 1: From: Linda Eyster and Suzanne Tompkins, Rm. 587, 1060 Morewood Ave. Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213. 30¢. No doubt the editors of this will rush to read Robin's article in the last. Oddly-looking this one..as it is all typed in capitals. Perhaps due to the use of spirit duplicating..which has also made them(wisely)use only one side of each sheet. Suzanne mentions in her editorial that she and ten other gals will descend upon the Discon. How times change! If a first issue introduces the editors that is good enough to be going on with..and these femmes are interested in SF, liberal and like arguments and mourn the death of UNCLE. The fact that the fiction content is poor can well be overlooked and I hope that I hear from them again..for they sound like femmes much the same as myself.

S.F. Weekly: No 218: From Andy Again: And this time with more bad news ---the death of Lee Jacobs. Again by a silly accident which always seems to make it worse. This also has a page of neat fanzine reviews.

Mar. 1st

The WSFA Journal: From: D. Miller, address as before. Oops..this is issue no 51. Subs have gone up though. Now 5 for \$1.25. This contains plenty of handy listings for SF fans. Also featured is Jay Kay Klein. He is not content with photographing everything that moves at a con; he has also written a report on the 67 Phillycon. Very entertaining too.

Mar. 2nd

Kallikanzaros: No 3: From: John Ayotte, address and rates as before. There are some editorial reflections upon the subject of Hugos. There is a poll sheet for the reader to fill in. I hope the editor will forgive me for not doing this..but at times it seems as if I am forever filling in polls -it's not as if I am any good at remembering just what I liked or disliked in a handy enough form to fill in one of these sheets. Roger Zelazny is writing in this about his own approach to fiction. He discusses the use of "shadows" in writing. This proves to me what I have suspected - that he is a writer who visualises very clearly the scene he is setting. Harry Warner describes an SF opera which sounds interesting; and Larry Knight gives a "screenplay" that sounds as if it would be boring to watch. Don D'Amassa has.."How to write a science fiction story my way" which is fair enough warning! Useful if this is what you want to do. I pass on..and enjoyed the letter column. 44pp..no economising on that side of the pond.

Early Bird: From: Michel Feron, 7 Grand-Place, Hannut, Belgium. 12 for 8/6d or \$1. Trades also. Note to comic fans.."EARLY BIRD is no longer devoted to comic strips---if you did subscribe only for comic strips. just write and ask to have your sub transferred to GOOD GRIEF, my CAFE-Alpha zine". From Europe but in English, this one. Michel gives a listing of other European zines. He also gives a "Traveller's Guide book to Belgium fandom". I wonder if Michel could branch out and give us some translations from these other zines that we miss seeing because of the language barrier?

Meteor:No 5:From:Harry Kadler and Peter Day, 5 S.Mosnfield Rd,Salford 7  
The winners of the 1968 British SF Convention. Write Harry if you want  
to join. Send your auction material (go on -you do too have some) to Brian  
Marshall,619 Huddersfield Rd.Oldham.Lancs. I'll see you there ..and meantime  
be thinking of who we can give the Doc Weir Award to this year.

London Newsletter:No 8:From Joan Muggoch, address as before.Main news item  
is the date of the London premiere for "Space Odyssey 2001" which is 24th  
April. Folks interested in a blank booking should contact Joan SCOM.

Mar.5th

S.F.Weekly:No 219:From Andy..the handy newsfan, more zine reviews and news.

Mar.3rd

Letter received from Mrs Chris Hay, 411 W.Green Rd.Tottenham.London N.15.  
which says..."Artscope is considering running a SF dinner next October. It  
would be held in a restaurant in London, and cost aprox.£2. We would give  
a good meal in luxurious atmosphere and have several guest speakers of  
interest to the SF world. We would like your comments on this also those  
of your readers." In this sort of thing it is best to go ahead and plan  
and make your plans according to the support you get. Have a cut-off date  
in mind--this is essential.

Mar.6th

Osfan:No 33:From:Hank Luttrell, address as before but this is another with  
increased subs. Now rates 15¢. This, of course, is due to the rise in US  
postal rates. Likely to be happening over here too if the threat to do  
away with the printed paper rate is carried out. I must reiterate my  
welcome to another fanzine review column, always a healthy sign in fandom.  
More news of interest to sf fans..THE POWER has been filmed, for instance.  
It stars - George Hamilton! This zine also informs me that in the past  
year there were 155 new sf books published! Biggest seller-we are told -  
was The Ring Books, only I wouldn't call them SF.

Stefantasy:No 1 Vol 24:From:William M.Danner,R.D.1,Kennerdell,Pa.USA. The  
cover says, as always, "The Illustrated Magazine That Is Up To 81.67% Milder"  
and "Price less than up to a full 4 roubles except for your copy which is  
free!". This always tickles me. As ever the printing of this is very well  
done and must represent many hours of loving care. Contents are always  
nicely varied. Bill is grumping again about the US mail service; he blames  
junk-mail for the recent rise in postal charges. In the "Sceptic Tank",  
Dean Grennell relates some of his experiences with the posting out of  
unsolicited mail..rather hair-raising in spots! John Carroll writes  
about a new typer -IBM's Selectric - which makes me very envious..only it  
costs \$4400! The letter column is graced by Rick Sneary's philosophy of  
life..."I am well aware I live in a glunky world which isn't fair or smart,  
but I find things I like and stick with them.." Would that there were more  
like Rick.

Foolscap:No 4:From:John D.Berry, address and rates as before. Spring must be  
in the air, here is John talking about making the next issue an annish.One  
used to hear so much about annish's and faneds who faded away after their  
100pp annish. The page no nowadays is hardly out of the way, so I think

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it is safe to think we shall not lose John over this. John writes of a visit to Ozark fandom which I enjoyed as this is not a crowd which I have met except through their zines. For this reason I'd have liked even more description of the fans he met. There is a Carl Brandon reprint..I would wonder if the point of this story might be lost now, involving as it does a flatbed..but no! Somewhere in the pile of zines yet to be commented upon I know there is one that came from a flatbed. Derroll Perdue gives a concise history of latterday British fandom which is no doubt useful to US fans who have been wondering about the dearth of gazettes from our shores. There is a prime little reprint of a Burbacism from SHAGGY, and Arnie Katz supplies an amusing description of life next door to football players. Another good fanzine review column in this, and the letter column merits praise. This, and quite a few other zines that have come from the States lately make no diagnosis a resurgence of the "faanish" zine. With really good serious zines like Australian SF Review and the revival of good faanish zines -the fanzine outlook these days is very cheerful. If only it would cross the Atlantic to here!

### Mar. 7th

European Newsbulletin:No 2:From:Jean Muggoch, address already given. 1/6d  
in Britain, 1/6d + postage for overseas. Aim is to increase contact between fans in Europe. There are news reports from Scandinavia, Spain, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, France, Belgium, Britain, and news is still wanted for future issues. Useful for Travellin' Joints.

Ruffcut:No 1:From:John Grigg, 4 Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middsx. and it states  
that it is a contribution to OMPA. I comment upon it because it is only the second British zine in this issue so far, when one discounts the newszines of Jean. It makes me rather depressed too, I know one should make allowances for first issues; and apazines at that..but this has so little to commend it. The writing is poor, the grammar lamentable and the spelling leaves a lot to be desired even if you allow for a generous amount of typos. It is caused, I am sure, by the ingrown tendencies of British fanzine editors. I hope John will persevere after studying some more of the many fine zines that are obtainable.

### Mar. 8th

A Fropos De Rian:No 122:From Jim Caughren, a Fapazine which says "Since  
Fapa is all of fandom, where do all those writing lists come from?" I am not coming yet I hope..two more years and I may be ready! Liked this for the thoughtful remarks about Viet Nam.

### Mar. 11th

Holland-SF:No 1:From:Leo Kindt, Heilostreet 206, 's Gravenhage, Nederland.  
Although this is in Dutch, there is an enclosure which gives a summary in English. Very welcome! There is to be a 2nd SF Con in Amsterdam on April 20th. There is an account of the first con in this. 60 attendees, Leo can receive letters in Dutch, English, German, French..quite a guy!

Speculation:No 17:From:Peter R. Weston, 81 Treseott Rd., Northfield, Birmingham 31.2/6d per copy 3 for 51. Available for trade. It is so nice to see this back as it is a British zine that is really good. Production and

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artwork are excellent. I do not think that it is a coincidence that this British zine which is good is also one that has a letter column filled by many overseas readers. This zine has, as Harlan Ellison says, "solid reviewing and criticism", which he welcomes adding, "writing in a vacuum is a terrifying thing". This issue has Buz Busby on THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS; Joe Patrizio on THE MIND PARASITES; Bob Rickard on THOMAS DISCH, all, I have only itemised the highlights. Let's hope now this is back it is here to stay. Firmly recommended.

Mar. 12th

Hugin & Munin: No 34: From: Richard Labonte, 971 Walkley Rd. Ottawa, Canada 256. A publication of the SF Club of Carleton University. A nice breezy editorial which suggests it is time Canada had a convention. There is a mixture of articles and fiction in No 3, the former good and the latter poor. Also, Roger Zelazny writes that he doesn't think film is a good medium for SF--as it does not leave enough to the imagination. But one can hope can't one? The editorial in No 4 says "the stories are all by people who want--and need--to be told what they are doing wrong". Well, in my opinion (for what it is worth) I feel that beginning writers always make the same mistake..they try to copy their favourite reading matter. Which is why there are so many sword & sorcery stories in fanzines. One also finds a large batch of stories that have too much 'plot' crammed into a two page story. Often a science student will get a good idea from his studies and will write a story around it. This is done by Roger Tulk and it has the usual fault--a good central idea but no reason given for the phenomena and the story can only end as a 'gimmick'. The last line is supposed to produce a surprise when, in fact, it has been well telegraphed. What they should do, these beginning writers (again in my opinion) is to concentrate on writing about what they know and know well. This is why fan articles are always superior to fan fiction. Short fiction is a very difficult thing to tackle--I often think it must be harder than writing a novel. On the whole this zine is rather disappointing; I am sure that I remember it as being livelier than this. Perhaps it will perk up again.

S.F. Weekly: From Andy again and the No is 220. Many of the older fans will be sorry to hear that this issue reports the death of Dale Hart. He is the third fan to die in the LA area recently; and I am so sorry.

Mar. 13th

Dynatron: No 35: From: Roy Tackett: Address and rates as before. Ol' Roytack has gone reavin'..not only two DYNs in quick succession..but he has also got a proper contents page in this greenzine. He takes the time to explain to me what a colphon properly is. As it is a very useful word as used in fan circles I wish he hadn't bothered. Now I will be inhibited from using it! Harlan Ellison has a new book out and he certainly cannot complain that the fans have ignored it! Here is another thorough review of the many stories that went up to make the book called DANGEROUS VISIONS. I hear that one, GOMME ROLL THEM BONES has won a NEBULA award for Best Novelette. It was written by Fritz Leiber. This long review takes up the bulk of Roy's own writing; but he ends with a mischievous, tongue-in-cheek forecast of the coming Baycon that set me chuckling. Don Franson continues his good and gossipy Nycon report. There are some very promising poems by Diana

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Tackett, aged 14, that would put some grownups to shame. DYN continues to be green, full of SF talk, and humour and recommended.

Tanstaaf! No 1: From: Gary Grady and John Godwin, 2426 Belvedere Drv. Wilmington, N.C. 28401. 20p. One has to grit one's teeth a little at all the STAR TREK discussion one finds in US zines..as in this. No sign of it coming over here! This is a very small zine, it is all pretty feeble stuff - but there are gleams that show perseverance will pay off. I was tickled by the admonition -"Be gentle" -written in red ink. This shows they have both a sense of humour and an awareness that time will improve their product. So I wish em good luck.

Mar. 14th

Quorum: No 1: From: Donald Sobwick, Jr, 5410-A Relcrest Rd. Baltimore, Md. 21206 Such a lot of new zines! This one is aiming to be a sf review zine, and contributors are welcomed. A fair selection is covered in this issue.

Mar. 15th

The WSFA Journal: No 53: From: Don Miller again. That's the fourth issue in this issue; everyone seems determined to make this HIVER go more than 10pp. This is still an excellent zine which shows that it can keep up its steady output of news and extensive reviews.

Mar. 19th

A selection from SPECULATION: From Peter Weston, also again..A note says - "my special introductory issue". Pete offers it free of charge to anyone who writes; but UK readers should enclose a 4d stamp. It contains a selection of material previously published that features Fritz Leiber, Alexei Panshin, Michael Moorcock, and Buz Busby. Certainly worth the 4d!

Mar. 20th

Robot: No 1: From: Frank Rainer Scheck, 5 KÜln, Volksgartenstr. 44, W. Germany. This has 130pp, and is all in German, mostly fiction, or discussion of SF subjects such as "Das Beste von Algis Budrys". Very clear print. A letter from Frank tells me that it costs -- 4 for 20sh (2.50\$) and that exchanges are accepted.

COF: No 9: From: M.J. Ward, c/o Koralek, PO Box 5486, Stanford, Cal. 94305. This is a very short 6pp, 2 of which are taken up with a crossword puzzle. It is really just a notification of his move to the Bay area. He also makes it plain in a few well chosen words that he does not like Ballard as a writer. Guess I must congratulate or commiserate with him as the case may be.

Mar. 21st

Yandro: No 178: From The Coulsons. My respect for Juanita increases as she, in her editorial, very sensibly discusses the reasons for the projected US gun laws. I guess this is the first time I've seen an American fan discuss this topic without a loud plea for the "right" to bear arms. She makes it clear to me for the first time why there might be a difference of opinion between rural and urban folks. On the other hand Buck, in his column made me laugh out loud at his beginning.... "Well, here we are with

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our ANNISH, late as usual, and no big letter column like I said we'd have. (Would you believe next issue? You wouldn't...well, you don't have to get nasty about it...) All those beginning writers ought to get this for a very good article on the art of writing by Ed Gorman. In the letter column I find, to my indignation, a letter which refers to me in a cheeky fashion. The signature at the end of the letter is a blatant fraud. Like Buck, I diagnose Ron Bennett as the culprit. Fine thing! Not a line of the pen from him since he slunk off to Singapore except through a pseudonym and another letter column! IMPEACH RON BENNETT! In the letter column, 'uanita is again being sensible with remarks about how the behaviour of femmes in books, tv and movie fiction often vastly annoys her. But you'll have to read Y yourself to see what she said..this HAVER is getting too big...

Sirruish:No 16:From:Leigh Couch,Route 2,Box 889 Arnold,Missouri.63010. Official publication of the Ozark SF Assoc. 25¢ or trades etc. The editor's thoughts on cons are very similar to my own.. "You make your own scene" There is a review here of METROPOLIS, which revives happy memories of its last showing over here enlivened by the remarks of the audience. Alexis Gilliland has a short story that I found enjoyable, - suppose because it was humorous. Rather a large letter column which could have done with a lot of editing..except, of course, for Rick Sneary's letter which can never be too long. I liked the striking cover of a series of face masks by George Kuennen.

The Proper Boskonian:No 1:From:Cory Seidman,20 Ware St.Cambridge,MA 02138. Cory starts off in an endearingly breathless style to describe the Philly-con and damn it, P 4 is missing. Corys writing is good--and she gives excerpts from letters from her parents which show that the talent is inherited. This zine retails a remarkable feat of picketing by fans of a TV station in aid of STAR TREK. You have to hand it to today's youth--they do get involved! Anthony Lewis has an article about suggested HUGO nominees. To further this he re-read all 91 mags and most of the SF books of '67. Such energy! Rather typical though of the group of fans that produce this lively zine. There is some talk of Georgette Meyer fandom in this--but I must leave this enthralling topic for SCOT or I'll never get done! 25¢

Mar.26th

Tanstaafl:No 2:From: as before. This shows a great improvement in legibility. The editorial pleads that issue I was a crudzine. Weeell. that is putting it a bit strong! Anyway, vast improvement in this and I particularly liked a short bit on the French language and how illogical it is..and the promise that next issue would touch on German. The fiction is awful though.

Ecco:No 3:From:Randy Williams, Box 581,Liberty,N.C.27298. 25¢. This has some fiction and reviews. letter column some mention of fanzines..all fair and nothing particularly out-standing or commentable.

17 fanzines..phew!  
Ethel